



General



World Cultural Heritage Falconry Demonstrated

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(Jinan=Yonhap) Reporter Lim Cheong = A public demonstration of falconry, which was recently designated to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)'s world intangible cultural heritage list, was held on a hill in Baekam-ri, Baekun-myeon, Jinan-gun, on Dec. 11.

Park Jeong-oh, 69, held the demonstration of falconry for approximately 300 people – including personnel from the Cultural Heritage Administration, officials of the North Jeolla provincial government and the Jinan-gun office, and locals – for the first time since the UNESCO designation.

In the demonstration, Park's falcon captured a pheasant. Park attracted the viewers' attention by explaining his falconry experiences of about 30 years and how to make hunting tools.

Park learned about how to capture falcons, hunt pheasants with a falcon and make hunting tools in the 1970s. Park has practiced falconry for 30 years and is now teaching it to his son.

Eleven nations, including South Korea, Mongolia, the United Arab Emirates (UAE), France and Spain, registered their falconry heritages with UNESCO as world intangible cultural assets.

"I am happy as people have had a big interest in falconry, which was slowly being forgotten, since the UNESCO designation," Park said. "I will put more of my energy into preserving our cultural heritage with a strong sense of duty."

Falconry was popular in the Bakun-myeon area, as the area used to attract many birds and

pheasants around the village after heavy snow.

(Coverage=Lim Cheong, Editing=Bae Sam-jin)

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